



*The Aston Town Pear.*

XVIII.

THE ASTON TOWN PEAR.

This Pear is supposed to be a native of *Cheshire*, and to have received its name from *Aston Town*, in that county. It has not, until lately, been much cultivated in the gardens about *London*. In the garden of THOMAS CANHAM, Esq. (late ISAAC SWAINSON'S), at *Twickenham*, is a large standard tree; the fruit of which, though not abundant, is excellent, and usually ripens about a fortnight earlier than those received from *Cheshire*.

The branches are rather slender, with a manner of growing peculiar to this tree; that is, a kind of tendency to twist round in growing upwards; so that, at a distance, a Pear tree of this kind may be easily distinguished from all others: young shoots smooth, pale coloured, pendent, the fruit being usually produced at the extremities. Leaves small, oval. Fruit somewhat resembling that of the *Swan's Egg*, but more tapered toward the stalk, and rather flattened on the other end; of a greenish colour, spotted with russett, like the *Cressanne*, and having a few large spots of dark brown when fully ripe. The flesh is melting, highly flavoured, richly sugared and perfumed; sometimes a little stony. It is in perfection early in November, but will not continue long.

The specimen represented in our Plate was taken from a standard